GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2901
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2006
CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF DISEASES
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of health in the country has so far focused mainly on clinical management of diseases and ignored the larger social and economic context; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to give special emphasis on social and economic considerations?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(B): Government of India is implementing various National Disease Control programmes throughout the country to control major communicable and non-communicable diseases. While drawing up the action plans, several factors like prevalence of diseases in specific geographical areas, burden of disease, availability of facilities etc., are kept in mind. The implementation of these programmes primarily vests with the State Governments. Under the programmes, Central Government provides free diagnosis and treatment services to the community.

Under the mandate of the National Common Minimum programme (NCMP) of the UPA Government, Health care is one of the 7 Thrust Areas. In line with the focus given to health a National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has been launched in April, 2005. The objective of this Mission is to provide health care facilities in the rural areas of the entire country with special focus in 18 States viz. 8 Empowered Action Group States (Bihar, Jharkhand, M.P. , Chhattisgarh, U.P., Uttaranchal, Orissa and Rajasthan), 8 North East States (Assam, Arunahal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura) & the hill States of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir where there are weak public health indicators and/or weak infrastructure. The goal under NRHM is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable health care, especially to the poor and the vulnerable sections of the population. Under the NRHM, the main role of ASHA would be that a facilitator for health promotion. One of the key

strategies of the Mission is to prepare an integrated District Plan comprising not on health but the other determines like nutrition, drinking water, sanitation etc. as well.